Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph.

Fig. 1 shows pertinent elements of a system, computer, or computerized device 18 that uses staged-write storage media such as the types of CDs described above. Computer 18 includes a processing unit 22 and internal computer-storage media 24 such as electronic memory. The computer 18 also has other non-removable storage 26, such as hard disk memory, and removable storage 28. Removable storage 28 includes both a storage drive and a removable storage medium. In this case, the removable storage medium is a writable CD.

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph.

The functionality of the computer is embodied in most cases by computer-executable instructions, such as program modules, that are executed by the computer's processor(s). Generally, program modules include routines, programs, objects, components, data structures, etc. that perform particular tasks or implement particular abstract data types. Tasks might also be performed by instructions from remote processing devices that are linked through a communications network. In a distributed computing environment, program modules may be located in both local and remote computer storage media. For purposes of illustration, programs and other executable program components [[in]] are illustrated herein as discrete blocks, although it is recognized that such programs and components reside at various times in different storage components of the computer, and are executed by the data processor(s) of the computer.

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph.

The resource area in this example is a "staged-write" resource area, in which resources such as files are desirably "staged" prior to writing them to a storage medium associated with the staged-write resource area. In other words, files are designated and queued as a group, and then written in a continuous, batch process. As discussed above, this is the preferable way to write optical storage media such as CDs to achieve maximum compatibility with older systems. In the case of a removable medium such as a CD medium, the term "resource area" refers to the medium itself, although the computer also has physical hardware for reading and writing the medium. This hardware will be referred to below as the "drive." It should also be noted that the CD medium itself might contain a hierarchy of logical sub-divisions referred to as folders, each of which itself can be considered a resource area.

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph.

From a user's perspective, the process enabled by the described interface is a tremendous improvement over the prior art. Specifically, the process of writing files to an optical device has been integrated smoothly through normal file operations used by the computer's operating system 40, so that batch writing to a CD-ROM varies little from manipulating files stored on other types of media. This integration and ease of use is in stark contrast to prior art user interfaces, which either used incompatible "packet writing" formats or in which a user was required

load special-purpose application software, and to manipulate resources using specialized user interfaces and interface paradigms. The integration shown in Figs. 2 and 3 is a significant improvement over prior art methods of writing to optical media and other media that might require staged or batched write processes.

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph.

The concepts already described can be extended to other areas of the operating system. For example, context menus can be used to easily designate resources for inclusion in a CD-ROM staging area. Context menus are perhaps most familiar as short, drop-down menus that can be activated by "right-clicking" (with a mouse o[[f]]r other pointing device) various elements.

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, line 24, with the following rewritten paragraph.

Fig. 4 shows an example of a context menu 80. The context menu is the result of right-clicking on "razzle" icon 82, which represents a file. The main part 81 of the context menu includes a "send to" action. Holding a cursor over the "send to" action expands a sub-menu 84, which lists various destinations to which the icon's corresponding file [[by]]may be copied or moved. In this case, because of the presence in the computer of a writable CD-ROM, the sub-menu includes an option titled "Writable CD." Selecting this option automatically copies the subject resource to a non-visible staging area, where it is held until the time at which

staged resources are written to the CD. Context menus such as this are available in many UI components.

Please replace the paragraph at page 15, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph.

Upon detecting an attempt to remove or eject the storage mechanism, the operating system performs an action 210 of batch writing the designated resources to the storage medium. In one alternative[[ly]], the resources are written before allowing the storage medium to be removed. In another alternative, the resources are written after requesting the user to replace the removed storage medium. In either case, any icons representing the affected resources are altered to indicate their current status—such as an "in-process" status to indicate that the resources are currently being written. As mentioned above, overlays are conveniently used for this purpose.

Please replace the paragraph at page 16, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph.

The first alternative is available in computers and/or operating systems that are able to "lock" the storage medium and to prevent its removal. In these cases, the operating system detects when the user presses the eject button of the storage mechanism or when [[the]]a similar request is issued through software. In response, the operating system notifies the user that resources have already been staged, and asks for authorization to complete the writing process before ejecting the storage medium. Assuming that the user agrees, any staged resources are written to the storage medium, and the storage medium is then ejected.